

Mechanical Q&A 2007

Attention: □ Denotes a new question! 📄 Denotes a revised/revisited question.
March 2007

General:

1) *(Q) May the gas be turned on temporarily to the gas piping system without the installation of the appliance?*

(A) NO!

Gas Piping:

1) *(Q) May “smurf” conduit be used as an alternative material to PVC schedule 40, when required to protect flexible gas piping installed on the exterior of a structure?*

(A) Yes, it may be used for copper and CSST protection outside the structure within the first three feet of finish grade.

2) □ *(Q) What is the status of the bonding of CSST gas piping in Mecklenburg County?*

(A) The bonding of CSST gas piping is not addressed in the NC Fuel Gas Code and is considered an electrical issue. The Electrical Chief (Mecklenburg County) has ruled that a gas appliance with electrical connections is already grounded. Should the installer have any additional concerns, he/she should contact an electrical contractor.

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Equipment:

1) *(Q) Where may condensate be disposed?*

(A) Condensate may be discharged indirectly into an approved waste receptor such as a laundry sink, hub/floor drain, and washing machine box or may discharge to the outside in a dry well or drip to the ground provided it does not cause a nuisance.

2) *(Q) How do you connect two or more condensate lines together?*

(A) Connect lines together in a vertical plane, increasing the pipe size with each connect up to 2".

3) *(Q) Does the float switch have to be wired on Final inspection?*

(A) No!

4) □ *(Q) May a single auxiliary drain pan be provided for multiple furnaces (side by side)?*

(A) The Code states in 307.2.3 that a separate pan for each unit or cooling coil.

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Duct:

1) *(Q) When and where is R-8 insulation required?*

(A) : • Residential under NC Residential Code may still use that codes energy section until June 30th, 2007 which requires R-8 on duct placed outdoors.

• All other building types are required to have R-8 insulation on supply ducts installed outside the building envelop which would include unconditioned attics.

2) *(Q) Is it acceptable to provide access to a oval/round fire damper (for resetting) by the utilization of a readily removable clamp on the flex duct connection?*

(A) Mecklenburg County will allow the access to the damper provided:

- The flex duct is 12" or smaller.
- The removable clamp is stainless steel worm type clamp.
- Installation does not violate the manufacturer's installation instructions.

3) *(Q) What type of tape is allowed to be used to seal metal duct?*

(A) Any listed UL 181 tape is approved.

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Exhaust/Flue:

1) *(Q) Does the upper combustion air duct (2 duct system) require a slope?*

(A) Yes! See section 304.11 (#6) of the 2006 NC Fuel Gas Code.

2) *(Q) May 4" PVC be used as a dryer exhaust below slabs on residential units?*

(A) Mecklenburg County will allow schedule 40 PVC (4") as a dryer exhaust below slabs on residential units provided:

- The piping is sloped to the termination.
- Not more than 1" of PVC extends above the slab before the transition to metal.
- The exhaust shall terminate a minimum of 12 inches above finish grade (grade must be uniform within 200 square feet).
- Requires additional mechanical inspection (slab).

3) *(Q) When calculating the maximum run of dryer exhaust, are bends of 15° or less, considered straight piping?*

(A) No! Bends (usually made with fittings) in dryer exhaust piping are rounded up. A bend of 15° would be rounded to 45°, as so on.

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4) *(Q) To what degree does residential hood exhaust duct have to be sealed?*

(A) Horizontal joints where lengths of piping are connected shall be sealed with a non combustible tape unless a manufactured system installed by listed instructions.

5) *(Q) When does a contractor have to install clean outs on vertical exhaust duct?*

(A) At the beginning (base) of the vertical run and at each floor level.

6) □ *(Q) Is mechanical ventilation required in a one or two family residential garage?*

(A) The Code requires ventilation in garages but, does not require that ventilation to be mechanical in nature.

7) □ *(Q) How much of the appliance venting has to be completed on the rough inspection?*

(A) All must be complete!